

First words:

We believe that the Scriptures, the Bible, are the Word of God, supernaturally inspired and inerrant in all its parts in the original manuscripts. As such, it is the divinely authoritative standard for every age and every life.

What are we talking about when we say “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”?

The word “Scripture” comes from a Greek word “graphe” meaning “writings”. It became the common name for what we now call the Bible.

**2 Peter 3:16** - *As he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures.*

The \_\_\_\_\_ books of the Old Testament (This is the Bible of Jesus’ day) and the \_\_\_\_\_ books of the New Testament are in view..

How do people in our world view the Bible?

1. The Bible at its best is a group of religious stories that provide some inspiration and at worst it is a groups of myths that lead people astray - \_\_\_\_\_
2. The Bible is part of a long tradition of progressive and religious trends that provide insight for man into a higher consciousness. It is on par with many different holy books – \_\_\_\_\_
3. The Bible is a corrupted ancient book which contains spiritual truth in its non-corrupted parts - \_\_\_\_\_
4. The Bible is an ancient book that contains the Word of God but it cannot claim to be wholly the word of God because it has many scientific and factual errors – \_\_\_\_\_
5. The Bible is an ancient book that becomes the Word of God to you and me when we have a divine encounter with it. - \_\_\_\_\_ and some \_\_\_\_\_

How does the Bible view itself?

1. The Bible claims to be a God breathed book that was divinely put together and preserved and that is the revelation of God to man and thus authoritative for every avenue of our lives that it addresses.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Peter 1:20–21** - *Knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. <sup>21</sup> For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*

b. \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Timothy 3:16–17** - *All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

2. The Bible proves itself to be a God breathed book that was divinely put together and preserved and that is the revelation of God to man.

a. Through its supernatural \_\_\_\_\_

Example 1 – The city of Tyre – ***Ezekiel 26***

Example 2 – The crucifixion of Jesus Christ - ***Psalms 22:14-18***

b. Through its supernatural \_\_\_\_\_

The Scriptures were written over a period of 1600 years spanning 60 generations involving 40 different authors from varied walks of life on three continents (Africa, Asia and Europe) in three languages (Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek) with one theme - The redemption of man through the grace of God and with One central figure – Jesus Christ

c. Through its supernatural \_\_\_\_\_

“No other book has withstood such viciousness of attacks from its enemies. It is on the most wanted list of its adversaries and yet is still the most widely circulated book in history.”

## How should followers of Jesus Christ view the Bible?

1. We should seek to view it as Jesus Christ viewed it

a. Jesus saw the Law, The Prophets and the Psalms (Writings) as equally divinely inspired by God (These are the three sections of the Hebrew Canon)

**Luke 24:44** - *Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."*

b. Jesus saw the yet unwritten New Testament as being on par with the rest of Scripture

**John 14:26** - *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. See **John 16:12-13***

c. Jesus saw the Scriptures as \_\_\_\_\_ – **John 10:35** - *If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken—*

d. Jesus saw the Scriptures as \_\_\_\_\_ enough for someone to find saving faith - **Luke 16:31** - *He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"*

2. We should seek use it as Jesus Christ used it

- He used the Scriptures to explain about Himself - **Luke 24:27**
- He used the Scriptures to overcome temptation – **Matthew 4:4,7,10**
- Jesus used the Scriptures to refute his adversaries – **Matthew 22:29**
- Jesus used the Scriptures as a guide for living – **Matthew 4:4**

3. We should know it as Jesus Christ knew it.- **Luke 2:46–47 & 52**

4. We should share it as Jesus Christ shared it. - Jesus is recorded to have quoted from the Old Testament over \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ different OT books

